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Pre A #9

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE E. Burns
10/29/01

Serial No.: Unknown (National Phase of International Application
PCT/EP98/06225; filed September 30, 1998)
Filed: March 29, 2001
Applicant: Michael Kuhl et al.
Title: **DEPTH MEASUREMENT AND DEPTH CONTROL OR
AUTOMATIC DEPTH CONTROL FOR A HOLLOW TO BE
PRODUCED BY A LASER PROCESSING DEVICE**
Our Ref: BEET-03

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

March 29, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend
the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-26 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 27-52 as follows:

27. (NEW) Method for making a specifically formed hollow in a work piece by
means of a laser machining apparatus which, in a layer-wise manner, removes
material from the work piece in horizontal layers (S; xy) corresponding to the
specific shape, wherein the depth (z) of the hollow is continuously measured,
characterized in that

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